

CLAIMS

1. A method of extending a program element comprising:
writing source code wherein said source code includes said program element;
5 determining if said program element is to be extended; and
extending said program element, if so, using an extend structure.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said program element is defined in a
repository of computer code.

10 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said program element is a function.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said extending comprises:
providing a set of program code wherein said program code is executed whenever
15 said function is executed.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said program element is an enumeration.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said extending comprises:
providing a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more
20 elements to said enumeration.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said program element is a class.

25 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said extending comprises:

providing a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more member variables to said class.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein said extending comprises:

providing a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more member functions to said class.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein said extending comprises:

providing a set of program code wherein said set is executed whenever a constructor for said class is executed.

11. A program element extender comprising:

source code wherein said source code includes a program element;

a determiner configured to determine if said program element is to be extended;

and

an extender configured to extend said program element, if so, using an extend structure.

12. The program element extender of claim 11 wherein said program element is defined in a repository of computer code.

13. The program element extender of claim 11 wherein said program element is a function.

14. The program element extender of claim 13 wherein said extender comprises:

a program code provider configured to provide a set of program code wherein said program code is executed whenever said function is executed.

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15. The program element extender of claim 11 wherein said program element is an enumeration.

16. The program element extender of claim 15 wherein said extender comprises:

a program code provider configured to provide a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more elements to said enumeration.

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17. The program element extender of claim 11 wherein said program element is a class.

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18. The program element extender of claim 17 wherein said extender comprises:

a program code provider configured to provide a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more member variables to said class.

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19. The program element extender of claim 17 wherein said extender comprises:

a program code provider configured to provide a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more member functions to said class.

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20. The program element extender of claim 17 wherein said extender comprises:

a program code provider configured to provide a set of program code wherein said set is executed whenever a constructor for said class is executed.

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21. A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein configured for extending a program element, comprising:

computer readable code configured to cause a computer to provide source code

10 wherein said source code includes a program element;

computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine if said program element is to be extended; and

computer readable code configured to cause a computer to extend said program element, if so, using an extend structure.

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22. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein said program element is defined in a repository of computer code.

23. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein said program element is a function.

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24. The computer program product of claim 23 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to extend comprises:

computer readable code configured to cause a computer to provide a set of

25 program code wherein said program code is executed whenever said function is executed.

25. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein said program element is an enumeration.

5 26. The computer program product of claim 25 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to extend comprises:
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to provide a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more elements to said enumeration.

10 27. The computer program product of claim 21 wherein said program element is a class.

28. The computer program product of claim 27 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to extend comprises:

15 computer readable code configured to cause a computer to provide a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more member variables to said class.

29. The computer program product of claim 27 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to extend comprises:

20 computer readable code configured to cause a computer to provide a set of program code wherein said program code adds one or more member functions to said class.

25 30. The computer program product of claim 27 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to extend comprises:

computer readable code configured to cause a computer to provide a set of program code wherein said set is executed whenever a constructor for said class is executed.

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